2. ADJOURNMENT MOTION

Delay in the grant of Parole

Mr. President: I have received notice of an adjournment motion from Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan. The delay on the part of the authorities in granting parole to P. S. Nambudiri, a detinue to see his brother who is very ill, is the subject of the adjournment motion. Is this a matter of recent occurrence and is it a matter of urgent public importance?

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Sanction has been given.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, it is to another Nambudiri. There are two Nambudiries in Central Jail.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Chief Secretary to Government):* There was a petition from one Nambudiri alone and sanction has been given.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* My motion relates Sir, to Mr. P. S. Nambudiri.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Chief Secretary to Government):* I do not know if it is the same person. I shall look into the file.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Mr T. N. Nambudiri Sir has been granted. Mr. P. S. Nambudiri has not been granted parole as yet.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Chief Secretary to Government):* I shall look into the matter. It has not come to notice. Government will enquire.

Mr. President: It can be posted for to-morrow. Has the Hon'ble Member any objection?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I have abolutely no objection Sir.

3. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS—AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Chief Secretary to Government):* I beg leave of the House to move this motion, to have the Standing Orders amended.

1. In Standing Order 33, the following shall be added as paragraph 5 namely.—

"The Secretary to the Council shall be the ex-officio Secretary to the Select Committee. He shall arrange to send notices of the meetings of the Select Committee and shall arrange for the conduct of all correspondence connected with its business.".

Though the Secretary of the Legislative Council is functioning as ex-officio secretary there is no express provision in this behalf in the Standing Order. It is to supply this omission that this is introduced.

2. In Standing Orders 34 (3), 34 (5), 42 (2) and 71 for the word "Diwan" wherever it occurs, the word "President" shall be substituted. That is because we have an elected President.

3. In the proviso to Standing Order 66 for the words "the Deputy President shall be the chairman and the Advocate-General and the Secretary to the Council (when they are members of the Council", the words "President shall be the chairman, the Deputy President, the Advocate General (when he is a member of the Council)" shall be substituted.

4. This is a new thing. The following shall be added as Standing Order 72, namely.—

"During the Budget Session of each year, there shall be appointed to function for a period of one year, a House Committee to consider and advice upon all matters connected with the comfort and convenience of members of the Council. The Committee shall consist of the Deputy President as ex-officio chairman, three members elected by the Council and one member nominated by the President. The Secretary to the Council shall be the ex-officio Secretary to the Committee".

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Public Health):* I second it.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Mr. President, I am extremely glad, Sir, as far as the last amendment to the Standing Orders is concerned namely, the addition of the Standing Order 72, which provides for the appointment of a House Committee to consider and advice on all matters connected with the comforts and convenience of members as detailed there. I am extremely glad that it is done and in this connection the Council Secretary more than the Chief Secretary and our Hon'ble President come in for a word of praise legitimately due to them for having so quickly acted upon a matter which is of prime importance in any house of

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[Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan]

legislature. I have got some suggestions also in this behalf to make with regard to the operative portion or the working portion of the amendment. Here it is provided Sir, that the Committee shall consist of the Deputy President as ex-officio chairman, three members elected by the Council and one member nominated by the President. Considering the nature of the Committee and considering the other environments of the House as is obtaining to-day whether the number to be nominated by the President should be restricted to number one or whether it should not be anything more than one is a matter worthy of serious consideration. If two is a number which leaves the total number at an even number then I will even suggest that three members may also be nominated by the Hon'ble President, so that persons who can devote some attention to this most essential work that is expected of such a committee can also come in there. There is of course the stigma of the back-door entrance through nomination by the President. There is a saying Sir, when we have inevitably to choose between two evils we choose the lesser of the two evils. It is in that light that I suggest that powers of nomination by the Hon'ble President may not be restricted to one but something more two or even three. As I said, that is only a suggestion. Even as it is, a word of praise is due to all quarters inclusive of the Government which on the suggestion of the Hon'ble President is seen to have acted promptly which is not generally seen in their actions. I take that Sir, as a consideration due to the elected Hon'ble President of this House and the Legislative Council Secretary. To that extent I am prepared to congratulate the Government also. I know the date on which these things started, not very long days or months back. Because of that I am pepared to congratulate Government when I find that they also come in for that. With these observations I support the amendments.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Chief Secretary to Government):* In the Madras Standing Order we have got six members to be elected by the Assembly and two members to be nominated by the Speaker. We have simply reduced the number. In the place of 6 we put 3 and in the place of 2 we put 1. If the number is increased it will make the committee unwieldy and again an elected representative is far better than a larger number nominated.

Mr. President: Leave is granted.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Chief Secretary to Government):* The President may be pleased to suspend S. O. 32.

Mr. President: Standing Order is suspended.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Chief Secretary to Government):* I move that the amendments may be taken into consideration.

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar *Minister for Public Health):* I second it.

Motion put and carried.

Mr. President: The question before the House is that all these amendments form part of the Standing Orders.

Motion put and carried.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Chief Secretary to Government):* I move that this may be taken up and finally passed to-morrow.

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Public Health):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

4. VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS *(cont.)*

(a) 32—Public Works *(cont.)*

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Before we proceed to that I have respectfully to place a suggestion before the House that in view of the fact that we have got innumerable cut motions on the demand relating to Public Works, most of them relating to local needs, I submit Sir, that the time allotted by the rules at ten minutes may be restricted to something less than that as was often done in this House when cut motions were moved.

Mr. Puthur Achutha Menon *(Kattur):* Regarding all cut motions.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, I am glad my Hon'ble friend has agreed, and the sting in it is also understood. The suggestion, Sir, is not made in the manner in which it is hinted. I know my business and I threw out a suggestion, according to me, a useful suggestion before the Chair which it is for the Chair to accept with the concurrence

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